

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. A method of providing data to a passive device comprising:

(a) identifying a system that has control over communications of an active device associated with said passive device; and

(b) transmitting said data to said system for transmission to said passive device.

2. The method of claim 1, further comprising (c) identifying said active device with which said passive device is associated, and wherein said identity of said active device is used by step (a).

3. The method of claim 2, wherein a database contains said identity of said active device and a list of passive devices of said subscriber that are associated with said active device.

4. The method of claim 3, further comprising (d) identifying said passive device that is to receive said data, and wherein said identity of said passive device is used by step (c).

5. The method of claim 3, wherein said passive device is selected from the group consisting of: a watch, a pen, a telephone, a frame, a wallet, and a beeper.

6. The method of claim 5, wherein said active device is a cellular telephone.

7. A computer comprising:

a processor, a memory and a communication interface;

first means for identifying a system that has control over communications of an active device associated with a passive device; and

second means for transmitting said data to said system for transmission to said passive device.

8. The computer of claim 7, further comprising third means for identifying said active device with which said passive device is associated, and wherein said identity of said active device is used by said first means.

9. The computer of claim 8, wherein a database contains said identity of said active device and a list of passive devices of said subscriber that are associated with said active device.

10. The computer of claim 8, further comprising fourth means for identifying said passive device that is to receive said data, and wherein said identity of said passive device is used by said third means.

11. The computer of claim 8, wherein said passive device is selected from the group consisting of: a watch, a pen, a telephone, a frame, a wallet, and a beeper.

12. The computer of claim 11, wherein said active device is a cellular telephone.

13. A passive device comprising a personal article that has a display, a receiver capable of receiving data via a wireless transmission, a transmitter capable of transmitting an identity message only a short distance to an active

device, and a controller for processing said data for display on said display and said transmission of said identity message by said transmitter.

13. The passive device of claim 12, wherein said short distance is in a range of about zero foot to about 100 feet.

14. The passive device of claim 13, wherein said personal article is selected from the group consisting of: a watch, a pen, a telephone, a frame, a wallet, and a beeper.

15. A memory medium for a computer that controls the presentation of a data to a passive device, said memory medium comprising:

first means for controlling said computer to identify a system that has control over communications of an active device associated with said passive device; and

second means for controlling said computer to present said data to said system for transmission to said passive device.

16. The memory medium of claim 15, further comprising third means for controlling said computer to identify said active device with which said passive device is associated, and wherein said identity of said active device is used by said third means.

17. The memory medium of claim 16, further comprising fourth means for controlling said computer to identify said passive device that is to receive said data, and wherein said identity of said passive device is used by said third means.

18. The memory medium of claim 16, wherein said passive device is selected from the group consisting of: a watch, a pen, a telephone, a frame, a wallet, and a beeper.

19. The memory medium of claim 18, wherein said active device is a cellular telephone.

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